



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

July 31, 2008

San Jose City Council
200 East Santa Clara Street, 18th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

Honorable Mayor and Council Members;

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association respectfully requests that you reverse your decision regarding Council Resolution 74459 and remove the item from the November 2008 ballot pending further review. We cannot find in the City's documentation any compelling reason to support this ballot measure but do feel confident that with some time and effort a true solution can be found.

While we have Fire Station 4 and Valley Medical Center in our neighborhood, this only makes us more aware of the unintended consequences that result when decisions regarding public safety and access to medical care are made with only the bottom line in mind. Our neighborhood has a higher level of at risk residents already with multiple senior housing locations, several board and care facilities, skilled nursing and locked psychiatric businesses combined with a higher ratio of elderly, low income and immigrant populations. Our concern is that the proposal to reduce service has not been properly thought out and has not received the benefit of adequate analysis when taking these existing problems into account as well as the incoming high density development when talking about expanding Fire Station 4's response area.

We are concerned, also, because Fire Station 4 must respond across a light rail line that currently backs up traffic for blocks. The model does not show how you will save response time when waiting for the double pass of trains through an intersection that happens every fifteen minutes during peak transit hours.

The current proposal would expand the duties of Fire Station 4 but does not take into account the increase in population that would be at risk ten years from now. We cannot find in the City's documents any accounting of what this will look like when Midtown is fully developed, the areas adjacent to Midtown have been developed and the County pockets have been annexed. Much of the development is "transit oriented" which means transit dependant. Elderly, low income and disable transit dependant residents have higher calls for service.

As a former Planning Commissioner I am also alarmed by the rampant increase in converting single lots to multi family sites as well as the recent observation of City and RDA Staff that the area along Southwest Expressway and Bascom Avenue is ripe for conversion to mixed use and high density development with no caps placed on any of this. Unrestricted growth without an accompanying model for servicing these new residents of San Jose is an ill planned venture.

As affected residents we did not benefit from any public outreach. We strongly urge you to conduct public sessions in the neighborhoods affected by this proposal so we can all become educated regarding the immediate and long term affects. Public input is necessary for the development of a healthy and viable San Jose as well as a healthy and viable government. Who knows what good idea you are missing because the public didn't have the opportunity to be involved?

As a community that has not benefited much from City services in the past, we are concerned that the proposal will simply push a problem down the pipeline. We respectfully request the following so the entire community can participate in developing a product that will serve San Jose for decades in the future and not just resolve an immediate budget question:

- ❖ Rescind or reverse Resolution 74459 and remove it from the ballot.
- ❖ Conduct public outreach that allows all affected groups to participate
- ❖ Ensure the analysis of service reflects the changing demographics proposed in the service areas

We look forward to your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Randi Kinman, President

Helen Chapman
1556 Hester Av
San Jose CA 95126-2519

August 4, 2008

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of San José
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA 95113

Re: Council Item 3.7 – Action regarding Firestation 37 on Lincoln Glen Park

Dear Mayor Reed and Honored Members of City Council:

I would like to respectfully request that the action taken by Council on June 19th to approve placement of Firestation 37 on the parking lot of the Willows Senior Center adjacent to Lincoln Glen Park on the November ballot, be rescinded until further comprehensive community outreach can take place. My concern is that many details and potential impacts to the greatest number of residents and future residents have not been fully explored. I am also deeply concerned that the Parks and Recreation commission was not provided enough of the background information, nor had sufficient information provided to them from the community to make a clear and well thought out recommendation on the placement of a firestation on parkland. I attended the meeting where the Commission took action and can attest that no members of the public were present to provide input. It makes me wonder if staff performed thorough enough outreach to the public to garner such critical input to the commission.

I know from past experience as a parks commissioner that the precedent has already been set when Council approved placement of a firestation on Silver Creek linear park in District 8. We should not assume that since we have done this before, it is within our right to not perform an extensive search for the best placement of a firestation. In this case the easiest solution may not be the best. I believe there are many questions still that are still unanswered as I have heard from many community leaders from the Willow Glen neighborhood Association, Burbank Del Monte NAC and Shasta Hanchett Neighborhood Association who believe further research and outreach is critical. It is well known that District 6 and especially the Midtown area will be home to new high-density development whose residents deserve comprehensive, quality infrastructure.

Your decision to remove this item from the November ballot will allow for the necessary time to adequately and fully assess the issue at hand.

With respect,

Helen Chapman
Vice President Shasta Hanchett Neighborhood Association
Former Chair of the Parks Recreation Commission

Public Safety Capital Program

2009-2013 Proposed Capital Improvement Program

Detail of Capital Projects

7. Fire Station 37 (Willow Glen)

CSA: Public Safety
CSA Outcome: The Public Feels Safe Anywhere, Anytime in San José
Department: Fire
Council District: 6, 9
Location: Willow Glen/Cambrian

Initial Start Date: 3rd Qtr. 2004
Revised Start Date: 3rd Qtr. 2007
Initial Completion Date: 2nd Qtr. 2008
Revised Completion Date: 3rd Qtr. 2011

Description: This project provides funding for the consolidation of Fire Station 6 and Fire Station 37 and the construction of a new fire facility at the Willows Senior Center parking lot (requiring voter approval). This station will have the ability to house one engine company.

Justification: This new essential fire station will improve response time performance in Southwest San José. In order to improve response time performance and to supplement the existing engine currently housed at Fire Station 6, additional staffing for a secondary paramedic response apparatus is assumed in the operating and maintenance figures below.

EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (000'S)										
Cost Elements	Prior Years	2007-08 Appn.	2007-08 Estimate	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	5-Year Total	Beyond 5-Year
Development		127	101	44					44	145
Property & Land		35	18	30					30	48
Design		504	14	604	260				864	878
Bid & Award					100				100	100
Construction					4,729	303	447		5,479	5,479
TOTAL		666	133	678	5,089	303	447		6,517	6,650

FUNDING SOURCE SCHEDULE (000'S)										
Fire Construction & Conveyance Tax Fund					1,109				1,109	1,109
Neighborhood Security Act Bond Fund		666	133	678	3,980	303	447		5,408	5,541
TOTAL		666	133	678	5,089	303	447		6,517	6,650

ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (000'S)										
Maintenance							17	25		
Operating						121	669	762		
TOTAL						121	686	787		

Major Changes in Project Cost:

2004-2008 CIP - Beginning in 2003-2004, project costs were decreased 10% to establish a contingency reserve.
 2006-2010 CIP - Increase in project funding of \$1,770,000, of which \$1,753,000 was approved by Council in MBA #10.
 2007-2011 CIP - Increase of \$1,169,000 to reflect updated project costs.
 2008-2012 CIP - Increase of \$1,453,000 to address cost escalations.

Notes:

FY Initiated: 2004-2005
Initial Project Budget: \$2,165,000
Appn. #: 5737

Redevelopment Area: N/A
SNI Area: N/A
USGBC LEED: N/A



San José Fire Department

DARRYL VON RAESFELD, FIRE CHIEF

March 12, 2008

Dear Neighbor:

We are writing to inform you that the City is proposing to build new Fire Station No. 37 and is conducting a community meeting **Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 6:30 PM** at the **Willows Senior Center - Multipurpose Room** - -- 2175 Lincoln Ave, San Jose to discuss this Public Safety project. The proposed location is immediately adjacent to the main Willows Senior Center building. This project is part of the City of San José's Public Safety Bond Program, approved by voters in March 2002, which is adding, relocating and upgrading fire stations and police facilities; improving training facilities; and improving the Police and Fire 9-1-1 communications facilities.

The new fire station would be designed to essential facility standards, which will help to ensure the station's operation during power outages, an earthquake, or other natural or made disasters. Furthermore, the twenty-four hour staffing of the fire station would add a public safety presence to surrounding neighborhoods. The location of the new station would significantly improve emergency medical and fire suppression services to the surrounding community when seconds count.

To ensure the design of the new station reflects the character and architectural flavor of the surrounding area, community input and participation regarding external station features will be solicited through community meetings and outreach efforts. Notifications of planning and review community meetings will be sent through the mail informing you of the meeting place and time.

The construction of the fire station, as well as other improvements funded through the Public Safety Bond program, will improve fire and police services and foster a stronger partnership between the City and the community. We value your feedback and we would like to hear from you regarding this new station. Comments and questions may be addressed to Tom Bohn, Deputy Director at 408-277-2690.

Darryl Von Raesfeld
Fire Chief



San José Fire Department

DARRYL VON RAESFELD, FIRE CHIEF

May 13, 2008

Dear Neighbor:

As we have previously informed you, the City is proposing to build a new Fire Station No. 37 on the south parking area of the Willows Senior Center in the Lincoln Glen Park campus located on 2175 Lincoln Avenue. This project is part of the City of San José's Public Safety Bond Program, approved by voters in March 2002, which is adding, relocating and upgrading fire stations and police facilities; improving training facilities; and improving the Police and Fire 9-1-1 communications facilities.

The new fire station would be designed to essential facility standards, which will help to ensure the station's operation during power outages, an earthquake, or other natural disasters. Furthermore, the twenty-four hour staffing of the fire station would add a public safety presence to surrounding neighborhoods. The location of the new station would significantly improve emergency medical and fire suppression services to the surrounding community when seconds count. The station will also serve as a "Safe Place" and "Safe Surrender" location.

The parking area proposed for the project is considered parkland and will require approval by the voters of San José before the City could use it for a fire station. There are a series of meetings scheduled leading to the June 2008 Council hearing for the placement of this item on the ballot in the November 2008 election. We value your input and welcome your attendance at these meetings. All of the meetings will be held in City Hall, located at 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113. If you are driving, the parking garage entrance is on Sixth Street between Santa Clara and San Fernando Streets. Please bring your parking ticket to the meeting for validation.

- Public Safety Bond Citizen Oversight Committee
May 21, 2008 4:30 pm in Tower Room 644

- Parks and Recreation Commission
May 21, 2008, 5:30 pm in Wing Room 120
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/pris/commsagenda.asp>

- City Council
~~June 17, 2008, 1:30 pm in the Council Chambers~~

DATE CHANGE

→ June 19, 2008
8:30 am

<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/Agenda/20080619/20080619a.pdf>

Comments and questions may be addressed to Tom Bohn, Deputy Director at 408-277-2690.


Darryl Von Raesfeld
Fire Chief